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OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES AND COMPENSATION LAWS.

THE OHIO SUPREME COURT DECIDES THAT THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAW OF OHIO DOES NOT COVER OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES.

The Supreme Court of Ohio has decided that a workman who was suffering from lead poisoning contracted in the course of his employment was not entitled to compensation under the Ohio law of 1911. That law provided for compensation to employees "injured in the course of employment." The court took the view that the legislature in adopting the law did not intend to cover injuries caused by disease, although the language used might be construed to include such injuries.

Chief Justice Nichols, in the opinion, said:

The premium rates assessed and collected by the administering board * * * have been fixed on a basis of death and injuries by accident solely, to the entire exclusion of injury through disease. It is quite patent that any other construction would necessitate an immediate and striking horizontal elevation of all premium rates, and would in all probability prove a serious menace to the law itself.

Although the present constitution of the State of Ohio authorizes the legislature to provide compensation to workmen for occupational diseases, the opinion states that the present law, which was adopted in 1913, can be construed only as "wholly excluding any compensation for injury by disease, whether occupational or otherwise."

The opinion is published in full in this issue of the Public Health Reports, page 1269.

THE CONTROL OF MOSQUITOES.

WHIRLIGIG BEETLES (DINEUTES) AS A POSSIBLE FACTOR.

It has been stated that where "whirligig beetles" (*Dineutes*) are present *Anopheles* larvæ fail to thrive because of the destruction of the larvæ by the beetles. The "whirligigs" are the small, dark, oval, flattened beetles which one sees floating lightly on the surface of woodland pools and sluggish streams, usually congregated in considerable numbers, either resting quietly or performing graceful